

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/681,835

Applicant(s)

RUI ET AL.

Examiner

Behrooz Senfi

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/18/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 10, 13 - 23, 25 - 27, 29 and 31 - 34, renumbered as 1 - 29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/18/2007 has been entered.

Terminal Disclaimer

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 03/27/2007 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of US 6,937,266 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's amendment and arguments, see remarks, filed 10/18/2007, with respect to amended claims 1, 18 and 31 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1 – 10, 13 – 23, 25 – 27, 29 and 31 – 34, renumbered as 1 - 29 are allowed.

Claims 11 – 12, 24, 28 and 30 have been canceled.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of the record fails to anticipate or fairly suggest, an automated video production system and method for online publishing of a lecture, comprising: a camera system that provides multiple camera views of the lecture in a real- world lecture environment, wherein the camera system includes a lecturer-tracking camera that provides a camera view of a lecturer; a history-based, reduced-motion tracker that controls the lecturer-tracking camera in tracking the lecturer based on a history of the lecturer's movement; a set of expert video production rules that are probabilistic rules used by human video professionals in a video production field, the expert video production rules being weighted such that a first rule of the expert video production rules has greater weight as compared to a second rule of the expert video production rules, so that if the first rule and the second rule conflict the first rule is used and the second rule is discarded since the first rule has a greater weight than the second rule; and a virtual director that uses the set of expert video production rules to select a current camera view from the multiple camera views and is capable of changing the current camera view by switching between the multiple camera views in response to a triggering event, as claimed.

Claims 2 – 10, 13 – 17, 19 – 23, 25 – 27, 29 and 32 – 34, renumbered as 2 – 10, 11 – 15, 17 – 25 and 27 – 29 are allowed with respect to allowable independent claims 1, 18 (renumbered as 16) and 31 (renumbered as 26).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably


accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Behrooz Senfi whose telephone number is 571-272-7339. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TUNG VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Behrooz Senfi
Examiner
Art Unit 2621